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— News Release —

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
PO BOX 110, TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625-0110

Workers Affected by April Storms and Floods May File for Federal Disaster Unemployment Assistance

TRENTON, May 4, 2007 – David J. Socolow, New Jersey Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development, announced today that workers and the self-employed whose jobs were impacted by mid-April storms and flooding in certain counties, may be eligible for benefits under a federal unemployment program.

Federal Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) is available for persons (including the self-employed) who are out of work because of damage caused by the severe storms and flooding that occurred in New Jersey during the period of April 14-20, 2007. As a result of these damages, President Bush declared Bergen, Burlington, Camden, Essex, Gloucester, Hudson, Mercer, Middlesex, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, and Union Counties, disaster areas. Workers or residents in these counties may now qualify for federal aid if they were adversely affected by the storms.

The Federal Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) program is intended to help individuals who are left jobless in the wake of a major disaster. It covers self-employed people as well as those who work for others. A worker's unemployment will be considered to have been caused by the storm if the worker no longer has a job or is unable to reach the place of employment as a direct result of storm damage. This also includes individuals who were scheduled to start work, but do not have the job or are unable to reach it because of damage caused by the storm.

Self-employed individuals could be eligible for DUA if they can no longer perform any regular services as a self-employed individual, or are unable to reach where the services are performed, or were scheduled to start regular services but are unable to do so because of the disaster, or cannot perform services as a self-employed individual because of injury caused by the storm.

Individuals may be eligible for DUA benefits even if they do not reside in one of the counties declared disaster areas. For example, a person who lives in Mercer County, but works for a company located in Burlington County, that was forced to close because of flooding, could qualify.

The weekly amount payable on an approved DUA claim is calculated under a formula set forth in New Jersey's Unemployment Compensation Law. If the individual does not qualify under that formula, an alternate method of calculating benefits is used.

Individuals who believe they may be eligible for DUA payments should file their claims as soon as possible by telephoning a New Jersey Division of Unemployment Insurance Reemployment Call Center at Union City - (201) 601-4100; Freehold - (732) 761-2020; Cumberland - (856) 507-2340. Claimants for DUA may be asked to provide whatever documents they may have which show earnings. Proof may include pay stubs, W-2 forms, and income tax returns.

Individuals who are eligible for unemployment insurance benefits for the period of unemployment caused by this disaster will not be eligible for DUA payments.

The Department will take claims for DUA benefits through June 11, 2007.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

DISASTER UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

President Bush and Acting Governor Codey have declared a state of disaster in Bergen, Burlington, Camden, Essex, Gloucester, Hudson, Mercer, Middlesex, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, and Union Counties, opening the way for the use of federal funds to help meet the recovery needs of flood-stricken families and businesses in the affected counties. The declaration covers damage to private and public property from severe storms and flooding for the disaster incident period of April 14-20, 2007.

Federal Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) is available for persons, including self-employed individuals, who were living or working in the affected counties at the time of the disaster, and who are unemployed as a direct result of the damages caused by this storm.

If you are unemployed because of this disaster, you should file a claim for DUA benefits by telephoning a Reemployment Call Center. The deadline for filing for DUA benefits is 30 days from the date of this notice. DUA claims filed after the deadline may be ineligible for payment.

If you are eligible for unemployment insurance benefits, you will not be eligible to receive DUA payments.

Individuals who are eligible for DUA benefits are those who lost their jobs directly due to the disaster. Those eligible may also include: (1) individuals who are unable to reach their job because they must travel through the affected area and are prevented by doing so by the disaster, (2) individuals who were to commence employment but were prevented by the disaster, (3) individuals who became the major support for a household because of the death of the head of household due to disaster, or (4) individuals who cannot work because of an injury caused as a direct result of the disaster.

Affected residents and business owners in Bergen, Burlington, Camden, Essex, Gloucester, Hudson, Mercer, Middlesex, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, and Union counties can begin the disaster application process by calling 1-800-621-FEMA (3362), or 1-800-462-7585 (TTY) for the hearing and speech impaired. The toll-free telephone numbers are available from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. (local time) Monday through Sunday. Information is also available via the Internet at www.fema.gov or at www.nj.gov/labor.

Reemployment Call Centers:

Union City: (201) 601-4100	Serves Northeast New Jersey
Freehold: (732) 761-2020	Serves Northwest and Central New Jersey
Cumberland: (856) 507-2340	Serves Southern New Jersey

Reemployment services are available to individuals through the One-Stop Career Centers.

One-Stop Career Centers:

Bergen:	60 State Street, 2nd Floor	Hackensack, NJ 07601	(201) 329-6000
Burlington:	795 Woodlane Road Bldg. 5418, Delaware Ave.	Westampton, NJ 08060 Ft. Dix, NJ 08640	(609) 518-3900 (609) 723-5494
Camden:	2600 Mt. Ephraim Ave. 1873 Route 70 East, Ste. 304	Camden, NJ 08014 Cherry Hill, NJ 08003	(856) 614-3150 (856) 751-8550
Essex:	57 Park Street, 2 nd Floor 50 S. Clinton St, 5 th Floor 990 Broad St.	Bloomfield, NJ 07003 East Orange, NJ 07018 Newark, NJ 07102	(973) 680-5550 (973) 395-8600 (973) 648-3370
Gloucester:	215 Crown Point Road	Thorofare, NJ 08086	(856) 384-3700
Hudson:	690 Broadway 4800 Broadway	Bayonne, NJ 07002 Union City, NJ 07087	(201) 858-3037 (201) 271-4529
Mercer:	26 Yard Avenue 1 st Floor, Station Plaza 4	Trenton, NJ 08625	(609) 292-0620
Middlesex:	506 Jersey Ave. 339 Maple St.	New Brunswick, NJ 08901 Perth Amboy, NJ 08861	(732) 937-6200 (732) 293-5016
Morris:	107 Bassett Hwy. 30 Schuyler Place	Dover, NJ 07801 Morristown, NJ 07960	(973) 361-6321 (973) 631-6321
Passaic:	370 Broadway 25 Howe Ave.	Paterson, NJ 07501 Passaic, NJ 07055	(973) 977-4350 (973) 916-2645
Somerset:	75 Memorial Dr.	Somerville, NJ 08876	(908) 704-3009
Union:	125 Broad St. 208 Commerce Place 200 W. 2 nd St., 2 nd Floor	Elizabeth, NJ 07201 Elizabeth, NJ 07201 Plainfield, NJ 07060	(908) 558-8000 (908) 820-3181 (908) 412-7980

New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development
Division of Unemployment Insurance